

**REMARKS**

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action mailed January 10, 2006. In the Office Action, claims 1, 3-4, 9, 11, 19, 24 and 26-27 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, citing U.S. Patent Application No. 09/822,986. Applicants herewith submit a terminal disclaimer to overcome the outstanding rejection. Thus, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the cited rejection.

***Conclusion***

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: March 8, 2006

By

  
William W. Schaal

Reg. No. 39,018

Tel.: (714) 557-3800 (Pacific Coast)

12400 Wilshire Boulevard, Seventh Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90025

---

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8A)**

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:*

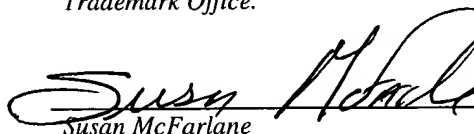
**MAILING**

**FACSIMILE**

☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service  
as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

☐ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and  
Trademark Office.

Date: 03/08/2006

  
Susan McFarlane

03/08/2006

Date